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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1701

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SUBCOMMITTEES:
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ENERGY AND AIR QUALITY
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND
THE INTERNET

April 25, 2006

FutureGen Site Selection Team
FutureGen Industrial Alliance, Inc.
1875 I Street Northwest
5th Floor
Washington, DC 20006-5409

Dear FutureGen Site Selection Team:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Commonwealth of Kentucky's submission of a solicitation to the FutureGen Request for Proposals.

Kentucky is fortunate to have an abundant supply of coal, which has helped keep power costs in the Commonwealth among the lowest in the nation. Coal has also been an important generator for economic growth through the creation of jobs directly and indirectly related to the coal mining industry. Kentucky has a long and proud history associated with the use of coal, and as new technologies are developed and initiatives implemented, Kentucky is in an ideal position to be a leader in these areas.

For this reason, I am very pleased that Kentucky is submitting a solicitation for FutureGen. The FutureGen technology offers exciting prospects for the use of all types of coal in the generation of electricity and the production of hydrogen chemicals with near zero emissions of sulfur dioxide, nitrous oxides, mercury, and carbon dioxide. The technology will enable coal to at least equal the environmental performance of natural gas and help the United States achieve energy security through the use of its most abundant domestic energy resource.

Kentucky's site is located in Henderson County Kentucky, which is in my District. It is conveniently situated along the Green River, granting the site easy access to cooling water and barge access. The site is a reclaimed surface mine located less than a mile from an active underground mine site. The total site is about 1900 acres of which the Commonwealth has carved out approximately 225 acres for the FutureGen project. Another power plant is proposed for the remaining acreage on the site. The Kentucky Geological Survey has researched the carbon sequestration potential of the area and has determined that there is good potential for sequestration within the Knox Limestone formation, about 8000 feet below the surface. The site is also close to two Kentucky parkways and three opportunities for interconnection with major interstate electricity transmission lines.

—DISTRICT OFFICES:—

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I am aware that several states will submit proposed sites for FutureGen. I am confident that none will offer a better combination of site characteristics, abundant coal resources, research capabilities, experience in Clean Coal Technology development, and support of its state government leaders and Congressional delegation.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Ed Whitfield". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "E" and a cursive "Whitfield".

Ed Whitfield
Member of Congress

EW:ls